

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for removing contaminating ~~or undesired~~ substances from a carrier material comprising

a) coating an active-ingredient- containing drug, food or cosmetic coating onto a neutralized carrier material, substances within said coating ~~penetrating~~ diffusing into and thereby contaminating said carrier material with drug, food or cosmetic contaminating ~~contaminants or other undesired~~ substances,

b) drying the coated carrier material to form an active-ingredient-containing drug, food or cosmetic film,

c) peeling the dried active-ingredient- containing film off the contaminated carrier material and

d) subjecting the contaminated carrier material to a thermal treatment which comprises

i) passing said contaminated carrier material through a thermal treatment zone at a temperature and during a period of time sufficient to remove essentially all of the drug, food or cosmetic ~~contaminants or other undesired~~ contaminating substances from the carrier material to form neutralized carrier material, and

ii) feeding the removed ~~contaminants or other undesired~~ contaminating substances to a thermal after-burning using controlled air circulation, and

e) providing the neutralized carrier material to said coating step,

wherein said thermal treatment is performed at a temperature of approximately 80 °C and the period of time sufficient to remove essentially all of the undesired substances from the carrier material is approximately 0.5 to 6 minutes and said carrier material is supplied on a reel,

and said carrier material is paper, a polymer or a composite material composed of paper, polymer or a thin metal foil or polymer and a thin metal foil.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[1]] 6, wherein said carrier material is paper, a polymer or a composite material composed of paper, polymer or a thin metal foil or polymer and a thin metal foil.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method for removing contaminating ~~or undesired~~ substances from a carrier material comprising

a) coating an active-ingredient- containing drug, food or cosmetic coating comprising an aqueous coating composition onto carrier material, substances within said aqueous coating composition ~~penetrating~~ diffusing into and thereby contaminating said carrier material,

b) drying the coated carrier material to form an active-ingredient-containing drug, food or cosmetic film,

c) peeling the dried active-ingredient- containing film off the contaminated carrier material and

d) subjecting the drug, food or cosmetic contaminated carrier material to a thermal treatment comprising

i) passing said contaminated carrier material through a thermal treatment zone at a temperature and during a period of time sufficient to remove essentially all of the drug, food or cosmetic ~~contaminants or other undesired~~ contaminating substances from the carrier material and

ii) feeding the removed ~~contaminants or other undesired~~ contaminating substances to a thermal after-burning using controlled air circulation.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for removing contaminating ~~or undesired~~ substances from a carrier material comprising

a) coating an active-ingredient-containing drug, food or cosmetic coating onto carrier material, active ingredients, adjuvants, flavors, or fragrances within said coating ~~penetrating~~ diffusing into and thereby contaminating said carrier material,

b) drying the coated carrier material to form a drug-containing film, confectionary-containing film, food -containing film or cosmetics-containing film,

c) peeling the dried film off the contaminated carrier material and

d) subjecting the contaminated carrier material to a thermal treatment comprising

i) passing said contaminated carrier material through a thermal treatment zone at a temperature and during a period of time sufficient to remove essentially all of the ~~contaminants or other undesired~~ contaminating substances from the carrier material and

ii) feeding the removed ~~contaminants or other undesired~~ contaminating substances to a thermal after-burning using controlled air circulation..

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, said method further comprising

optionally cooling the treated carrier, and

coating the treated and optionally cooled carrier,

wherein said thermal treatment is imparted in a drying tunnel.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said thermal treatment consists of an infra red heat treatment.